



What's
going to
happen
now?

A look at the anxiety about
Trump's return to power

FEAR

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We Owe Young Girls Safe Space to Grow

At 16 years old, I have now watched two qualified women lose to Donald Trump. Since the 1970s, at least 26 women have accused Trump of sexual assault. He continually attacks his female political opponents with sexist insults. Vice President Elect J.D. Vance has repeatedly insulted childless women, and on a podcast in 2021, he said that women choose a “path to misery” when they pursue a career over starting a family.

What lesson does it teach young girls if we treat misogyny as normal, expected even?

Desensitization is dangerous. It serves as permission; it declares that these things are acceptable, that “grabbing them by the p___” is just what men do. According to a study by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, there was an increase in the phrases “Your body, my choice,” “Repeal the 19th,” and variations telling women to “Get back to the kitchen” on platforms including X, forums, blogs, Reddit and YouTube from Oct. 1 through Nov. 6. Young girls, who may not even understand the context, are hearing and internalizing these messages on social media.

Our generation needs to stay awake. By 2028, nearly all of Gen Z will be eligible to vote in the next presidential election — but what will we do in the meantime? All of us, no matter our political affiliation, grew up hearing male politicians insult and degrade women, so much so that no new development, no new allegation, is shocking anymore. Gen Z grew up in online spaces that shaped the way we view political issues — through YouTube, TikTok and Instagram, we were exposed to crude and sexist comments at a young age.

We didn't come up with these thoughts on our own — we learned them from the people around us, especially from those online.

We can change the atmosphere of these online spaces. When you see a bigoted comment online, don't ignore it. Call attention to it by reporting it and speaking out about it. Instead of spreading hopelessness and negativity about politics, start posting about what people can do to make a difference. Midterm elections are Nov. 3, 2026 in Ohio. By then, I and many of my peers will be old enough to vote. Most importantly, continue calling out those in power. Every time we hear a misogynistic insult, every time a new allegation surfaces, we should be outraged. Stop letting toxic rhetoric become normal and routine. Now more than ever, we need to stay vigilant.

If we do this, we can shape how the next generation sees these issues; we can shape what the next generation sees as normal. I was 8 years old when Trump was first elected. It's up to us to decide what our message will be to young girls this time around. For the next four years, let's create a generation of voters who call out misogyny without exception, who will create a new atmosphere for 8 year olds to grow up in. It's possible — but only if we stay engaged.



ISABEL SIEGEL
Managing Editor

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On the Cover

ALISON TEETER
Design Managing Editor

Ever since Donald Trump was inaugurated as president in 2017, my mother has repeated the same phrase whenever she is frustrated with presidential affairs. “Why can't we just have Uncle Barack back?” she'll say, equal parts jokingly and longingly. Sure enough, she repeated her mantra in response to Trump's recent re-election.

Reminiscing on Obama's presidency with my mother reminded me of the iconic “Hope” poster by Shepard Fairey used in Obama's 2008 presidential campaign. I was 1 year old then, so I do not remember the general atmosphere surrounding his campaign, but from what I can tell, “hope” seems like an accurate slogan for it.

The only word that captures Trump's recent campaign to the same extent is “fear.” Trump's fear mongering through threats and declarations can, intentionally, incite fear in both his supporters and critics. Whether you support Trump or not, it would be inauthentic to say that his campaign was not deeply rooted in “fear.”

My parody of Fairey's artwork caused some debate among Shakerite editors. None of us wanted to send readers the wrong message, but we disagreed on what the message we were sending really was. Many said that the notion of “fear” being a fundamental aspect of Trump's campaign was subjective and that the word “FEAR” on the cover was therefore biased. Other editors



The “Hope” poster used in Obama's 2008 presidential campaign.
Shepard Fairey



The original cover art with the same dimensions as Fairey's “Hope.”
Alison Teeter

and I argued that “fear” was objectively fundamental in Trump's campaign and that the cover was therefore nonpartisan. Ultimately, the Editorial Board held a vote, and my design was approved.

I understand the hesitancy around publishing the cover, but I hope what sparked that hesitancy can also spark important conversations on the nature of our fear and the future of our hope.

This issue's ‘Rite Idea addresses the fear felt by some students following the election—a justified fear, but one that we are not powerless to fight. America should go into these next four years not paralyzed by fear but driven by hope.

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DEALING WITH THE DAY AFTER THE ELECTION

Teachers wrestle with how to help students process the results without making them feel worse

OLIVIA CAVALLO
Spotlight Editor

The election was called for Donald Trump at 5:35 a.m. Nov. 6, and teachers and students began navigating the day a few hours later.

Junior Luke Coleman said that his African-American history class discussed Trump's plans for when he becomes president. "It made me worry a little bit more, but it also gave me insight on what I should expect," Coleman said.

Freshman Roberta Esteve said that she appreciated hearing from her teacher in Global Studies class. "She started to get sentimental because of what we were telling her. She started crying and saying it was not fair for us," Esteve said. "That was very nice of her because she had empathy."

English teacher Cathy Lawlor said that she allowed her students to opt out of giving presentations, which is what she had originally planned that day. However, she said most students wanted to follow the regular lesson plan. "I think that the reason for that is because they just wanted a distraction," Lawlor said.

Lawlor, who has taught at Shaker for 30 years, said that flexibility is important. "There've been a lot of cases where something big has gone on in the world that kids need help coping with and adults need help processing," Lawlor said. "As a teacher, you have to be flexible enough to know it's not business as usual."

Sophomore Lucy Hopkins said that she was annoyed by constant election discussions in her classes. "When we got to APUSH, which was third period, we spent an hour talking about it," Hopkins said.

"Before walking to school, the vast majority of people already knew what happened, and I think just pushing it further at school might've not been the best idea for everyone's mental well-being," Hopkins said. "I don't think it should've been mentioned so heavily by the teachers."

Sophomore Gary Strainac said that his teachers conducted their classes as usual. "Kids were generally quieter during class. A few of my teachers noticed that, but not much changed," he said.

"Most of my teachers, their job is to teach us other subjects. I kind of wish there was a bit more discussion on it in my history class," Strainac said.

English teacher Valerie Doersen said that she let her students make decisions about the



Students in English Language Acquisition class and their teacher, D. Michael Wells, meet in Room 231 Nov. 13. Twelve students are enrolled in the class this year. Wells, in his ninth year at Shaker, also teaches ELA at Lomond Elementary School. The district is home to ELA students from more than 35 countries. "I simply listened to students' thoughts and concerns the day after the election while trying to reassure them that not everyone shares the viewpoints or ideologies stated by the president-elect," he said. "I emphasized that in this district, they are seen and valued for who they are along with their rich cultural identities. Some students hoped that Trump's abrasive statements regarding immigrants were simply a means to rally votes rather than a willingness to follow through on campaign promises."

Trump's Return Renews Fears Among Students Who Are Immigrants

Habiba Fnu, a senior, is worried about how Donald Trump's win will affect her and her family.

"I think I'm kind of scared because as you know, we're immigrants, and there's also a fear just like if Trump gets selected, it won't be easy for us," said Fnu, an ELL student interviewed Oct. 31.

Trump campaigned on anti-immigrant ideas en route to his Nov. 5 victory. During his rallies, he said that immigrants are "blood thirsty criminals," "rapists," the "most violent people on earth," "animals," "stone cold killers," the "worst people," and the "enemy from within." He has promised to initiate mass deportation of undocumented immigrants as soon as he takes office in January.

Shortly after taking office in January 2017, Trump signed an order forbidding immigration from predominantly Muslim countries. In 2018, he disparaged immigrants from Haiti, Central America and Africa as coming from "bad countries." He also spoke about preferring white immigrants from countries such as Norway. He repeated that preference when campaigning this year in April, according to The

Washington Post.

Students who have immigrated to the United States have concerns about what might happen. Fnu said that it will be difficult for her brother, who is 5, to get a visa. She said that she and her family came to the United States from Bangladesh during the COVID-19 pandemic during Trump's first presidency.

"We have been working for five years to get a visa, and just because of COVID, it was so delayed," Fnu said. A Trump victory "would be horrible, and we would have to wait another five years to get a visa, and my brother would be 10 years old. I can't even imagine."

Junior Yasamin Abed, an ELL student interviewed Oct. 31, said coming to the United States from Iraq was difficult with the immigration policy Trump enforced. "We had to move back to Iraq, and we stayed there for at least two years," she said.

Abed said, "I just came back this year, so it affected us so much. It will probably be worse."

ARIANA DAVIS Journalism I Reporter

election conversation. "My plan was to follow students' lead in terms of how much they seemed to want to talk about it, so I waited until students brought it up, and didn't so much lead as allow a discussion," Doersen wrote.

Doersen wrote that students were more optimistic than after the 2016 election. "This time, I feel like there is more of a sense that we can make it through," Doersen said.

Freshman Annika Hudson said that students were divided. "I heard some kids in the hallways screaming, 'Trump 2024.' Then I also heard others saying Kamala should've won, it's unfair, stuff like that," Hudson said.

"The teachers kind of shied away from talking about it at all, and so everything went as normal, but you could tell that the kids were a little bit upset," Hudson said. "I wish they could have leaned toward the political side, but that's just me, and I know in general it's good they stay neutral."

"As a teacher, you have to be flexible enough to know it's not business as usual."

Cathy Lawlor

Sophomore Elizabeth Wilson said that her APUSH class talked about the statistics behind the election results. "In some ways it was helpful," Wilson said. "You saw why Trump won, why people voted for him, what type of people voted for him, what classes and stuff."

"It was kind of gloomy," Wilson said. "A lot of people I knew were really sad about it, so they weren't upbeat like normal."

Meanwhile, freshman Zora Kansal said that her classmates had a more lighthearted attitude. "They were making jokes about Trump. Everyone was laughing and not really thinking a lot of it," Kansal said.

English teacher Victoria Schmidt said, "I thought about how I really didn't want to unpack all of my feelings or theirs because everything felt surreal and raw. But, I told myself that I would let the discussion happen if students felt they needed to talk."

"Everything felt heavy."



Rapidly changing laws governing women's reproductive rights, proliferating at the state level since the reversal of Roe v. Wade, have added variables to college and post-high school planning that students have not necessarily considered before and that are not included in typical resource materials.

THINKING HARDER ABOUT WHERE TO START ADULT LIFE

Reversal of Roe v. Wade leads some girls to weigh future plans against state laws

MAIZY MACHMER-WESSELS *Journalism / Reporter*

Junior Katherine Adams won't necessarily decide where to attend college based on the 2022 Supreme Court reversal of Roe v. Wade, but it may play a role in where she moves after she graduates.

"I think that it won't necessarily affect where I go to college, personally, because I want to go somewhere best for my future career," she said. "But after college, I think it could play a role because I want myself and my future daughters to be able to have the freedom of choice."

With the Nov. 5 re-election of Donald Trump, the possibility of national ban on abortion access is real. Today, laws restricting abortion access exist in 21 states.

Sophomore Jordyn Triplett said she definitely will make different decisions based on the court ruling. "I had plans to travel, and it has affected the places I would like to go. Also, if I do go to college I would feel much safer at a HBC [Historically Black College]," she said.

Freshman Eve Blocker said the ruling "would definitely affect where I go to college and the precautions I take when leaving home."

Laws about abortion began to develop in the United States after male doctors organized the American Medical Association in 1847, according to Planned Parenthood historical abortion timeline. The physicians overtook the work of women who had been providing care during pregnancy, such as midwives and nurses, and decided that they should determine whether abortion could be performed legally instead.

In 1960 abortion laws began to be lifted in 11 states.

Reproductive Rights Vary Widely Throughout the United States

Abortion Illegal after Conception	12-Week Bans	Legal Before 24 Weeks	Legal
Alabama	North Carolina	New Hampshire	No Limit Specified
Arkansas	Nebraska	Pennsylvania	Alaska
Idaho			Colorado
Indiana			Maryland
Kentucky	15-Week Bans	Legal Before Viability (24-26 Weeks)	Michigan
Louisiana	Arizona	California	Minnesota
Mississippi		Connecticut	New Jersey
Missouri	18-Week Bans	Delaware	New Mexico
Oklahoma	Utah	Hawaii	Oregon
South Dakota	Georgia	Illinois	Vermont
Tennessee	Iowa	Maine	Washington
Texas	South Carolina	Massachusetts	
		Nevada	
	Legal Abortion Before 22 Weeks	New York	
		North Dakota	
Six-Week Bans	Kansas	Wyoming	
Florida	Ohio	Montana	
Georgia	Wisconsin	Rhode Island	
Iowa		Virginia	
South Carolina		Washington	

Compiled from axios.com

Then in 1973, the Supreme Court ruled abortion legal nationwide with its Roe v. Wade decision.

Reproductive rights can affect women's options in cases of sexual assault. According to a 2020 Association of American Universities report, among undergraduate students, about 26.4 percent of women and 6.8 percent of men are sexually assaulted while in college.

Sophomore Elizabeth Wilson said she is concerned that if someone she knew were raped, they wouldn't have a solution if pregnancy resulted.

Blocker said that the reversal of Roe affects women in general, but "especially women who have been raped."

"I want myself and my future daughters to be able to have freedom of choice."

Katherine Adams

Elena Girault said she is grateful to be attending a college in New York, where abortions are legal. "Also, with the recent election, I have thought about where I might live after college," she said.

"I used to joke all the time about moving to France, since I speak French, but the more rights that are taken away from me, the more I seriously consider it."

"I'd rather live in a country where my rights are protected."

Morgan Jodzio said she never really thought about picking a college based on which states have abortion laws.

"But, now that you brought that up," she said, "maybe I should."



Cast members rehearse the opening number, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," in which the spellers gather excitedly for the bee.

Photo by Olivia Cavallo

LET THIS CAST SPELL IT ALL OUT FOR YOU

This year's musical features humor, heart and audience participation

OLIVIA CAVALLO
Spotlight Editor

Buy a ticket to the upcoming fall musical, and you'll have a chance to do more than watch and applaud.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" features a main cast of six middle school students competing in a regional spelling bee. The script was written by Rachel Scheinkin and inspired by the play C-R-E-P-U-S-C-U-L-E. "Spelling Bee" debuted in July 2004 and ran on Broadway from April 2005 to January 2008.

As the bee progresses, spellers reveal their backstories, motivations and quirks, all while gradually getting eliminated. In the end, there can only be one winner.

Junior Myles Hills said that seeing the show is worthwhile because it could resonate with high school students. "It's relatable content. People have familial issues, personal issues, going through puberty issues," Hills said.

Theater Department Chairman Scott Sumerak chose and is directing the musical. "The show is really about kids who are passionate about something," Sumerak said. "It shows us that people can be passionate about something in many different ways and still have something mean a lot to them."

"Spelling Bee" is unique because of its use of audience participation. During the pre-show, attendees can volunteer to make an appearance in the musical. If chosen, they receive instruction about how to behave on stage. During the performance, they are invited on stage and asked to spell a word at the microphone.

Sumerak said that this is the high school's first performance to include audience partici-

"It shows us that people can be passionate about something in many different ways and still have something mean a lot to them"

Scott Sumerak

pation. "Let's jump into the pool and see if we can swim," he said.

Freshman Sam Moyer, who portrays Chip Tolentino, said that he's excited to have audience members on stage.

"You have to really know your part," Moyer said. "If I have a volunteer right next to me, and we're going into a dance number, I'll have to act within my character and kind of guide them through it. It's gonna be a really fun challenge."

The high school's production of adds an ensemble to the mix. Members will portray spellers who are eliminated, sing offstage and rejoin the main cast for musical numbers.

"The show is written in a way that gives us permission," Sumerak said. "There's a way to justify it without making it look like we invented something to shoehorn more people in."

Additionally, Sumerak tweaked the script to remove instances of one actor playing two characters, which allows more ensemble participation.

Ensemble member Elise Lopez said that the musical's focus on character rather than technical complexity has fostered a sense of community among the cast.

Junior Taylor Torres portrays Marcy Park. She said that the rehearsal process, which began in mid-September, has been smooth and organized. "Everyone here is really nice, really supportive," Torres said. "They're not trying to bring people down or sabotage them."

Said Torres, "If you want to get involved with theater — maybe you're considering it next year — if you want to come see the show, I think this is a very good one to get the idea of what theater is."

Cinnamon Rolls and the Role of a Lifetime

I tested out a recipe for chocolate chip cookies, and the rest is history," said senior Elise Lopez. She's brought homemade baked goods to theater rehearsals since taking on a role in "The SpongeBob Musical" two years ago.

"I love that multiple people bring in different treats on different days because I feel like it builds such a sense of community within the cast," Lopez said. "Theater is really energy intensive, too, so it's also nice to get a nice afternoon snack."

In addition to her ensemble role in "Spelling Bee," Lopez portrays a humorous depiction of Jesus Christ. Lopez attended Catholic school from preschool to ninth grade, but she said that her family does not consider Spelling Bee's portrayal of Jesus Christ blasphemous. "I have told my family, and they're not iffy about it. In fact, they find it kind of hilarious," she said.

Lopez said that she watched video clips of "Spelling Bee" to become familiar with the musical after it was announced in May. "I've always showed interest in playing the role of Jesus," she said.

Sumerak's addition of an ensemble led to Lopez taking on the role. "Traditionally, Jesus is played by the actor who plays Chip. Since we're taking this different approach this year, Jesus was chosen out of the ensemble," said Lopez, whose costume comprises a white robe, a red sash and a curly fake beard.

In January 2023, a Geauga County board of education canceled Cardinal High School's production of the show, citing profanity, adult humor and the appearance of Jesus Christ in a humorous scene to justify its decision.

"The controversy really depends on which district and community you're performing in," Lopez said. "[Shaker] is on the more liberal side, so that does enable us to do stuff that is a little bit more controversial."

Said Sumerak, "How do we avoid any kind of controversy by doing any kind of art?"



Freshman Sam Moyer, who plays speller Chip Tolentino, sings "Pandemonium" as characters erupt into chaos, protesting what they consider unfair competition.

Olivia Cavallo



A version of this Thanksgiving table will greet family members in students' homes Nov. 28.

Ms Jones via Creative Commons

Looking Forward to a Day of Food, Football and Fun

Whether seated, standing, laughing or cooking, students and their families enjoy being together for Thanksgiving

VIJAYA SADLER
City Reporter

Junior Deborah Butler's favorite Thanksgiving tradition happens at the table.

"My mom throws down in the kitchen," she said. "My favorite dish that she makes would be her greens. They're so good and well seasoned."

Many families in Shaker celebrate Thanksgiving and give thanks every year. But it may look different in every household. Individuals in the same community or even the same household have different ideas on thankfulness and what they look forward to at the table.

Junior Laila Warner's family of 15 doesn't eat the "traditional" way. "We don't sit around at a table like traditional families do. We stand around and watch the news or whatever's on TV while we converse," she said.

Teaching Aid Nia Chappell's family meets at her grandparent's house for "a feast of all sorts," Chappell said.

"We talk about what's new and up-

coming in our lives, and we discuss the little ones and their upcoming events," she said.

Some family members live far away, and Thanksgiving is the time to catch up. Shaker parent Kimberly Clarke said she relishes the time she gets to spend with long-distance family members from Florida to "come together, pray, laugh, watch football and give thanks."

Sophomore Cydney Burrell has welcomed new family members in the past year. "Usually my aunt would come in from Willoughby and spend Thanks-

giving with us, but now both my aunt and uncle have come in ever since she got married," she said.

The Shaker community expressed thankfulness for a variety of things this year.

"I'm thankful

"I'm thankful for my friends, family and having a passport."

Oumou Kaba

that I'm able to take care of my brother in his time of need," Chappell said.

Senior Oumou Kaba spent most of her school years in Shaker schools, but spent eighth through 10th grade in Ivory Coast Africa before coming back to Shaker. "I'm thankful for my friends, family and having a passport," she said.

"Thanksgiving was better in Africa because I was surrounded by more family than I am here."

Freshman Ruth Becker is thankful

for the people who uplift her most. "I'm thankful for my family because they're a good group of people to be around who support me," she said.

Senior Douglas Houston is thankful for his football scholarship offers. "I worked hard for them, and it felt rewarding to receive them," he said. Houston earned football offers from Saginaw Valley State, Bucknell University, Stony Brook University and Temple University. He will attend Saginaw Valley State.

Freshman August Golli is grateful for the fundamental things. "I'm thankful

for my friends, family, and to have food on the table," he said.

Senior Andrew Benincasa said he appreciates the hard work his parents devote to raising him. "I'm thankful for my parents for doing everything they can to provide for me," he said.

Clarke said she is most thankful for spending time

with her family. "We're a fun bunch, and our family traditions are exciting," she said. "We play cards, teach the younger kids how to play cards, and we yell at the TV while watching football."

In addition to looking forward to sitting down to eat, Butler said she joins her mom in making the meal. "I usually help her sometimes in the kitchen," she said, "but this year I'm excited to try something new and make cheesecake with my mom."

Candied Yams

Laila Warner's favorite dish. "I look forward to eating yams every Thanksgiving."

Ingredients

1. 6 medium yams
2. 1 cup brown sugar
3. 1 cup cane sugar
4. 1 tsp. cinnamon

Directions

1. Boil the yams (Only if they are still frozen).
2. Take yams out after boiling them place them on a cutting board and cut them into smaller pieces.
3. Place cut pieces of yams in a glass dish.
4. Put 1 full cup of brown sugar, 1 full cup of cane sugar, and cinnamon for the brown color.
5. Place mixed ingredients in the oven at 350 and let them cook.

Green Bean Casserole

Guidance Counselor Catherine Szendrey's family eats green bean casserole from a can. "I don't like green beans, but every year my family says I make a good green bean casserole," she said. "The funny thing is it comes from a can."

Ingredients

1. 2 14.5 oz cans cooked green beans
2. 1 can cream of mushroom soup
3. 1/2 cup milk
4. 1 tsp. soy sauce
5. 1 1/3 cups fried onions

Directions

1. Drain canned green beans.
2. Combine the cream of mushroom soup and milk in a bowl.
3. Stir it together to make a smooth sauce, stirring out all the lumps. Then add the soy sauce and stir it again.
4. Put the beans and half of the fried onions in the bowl with the soup mixture. Season with pepper and stir everything together.
5. Pick a 1 1/2 to 2 quart baking dish. Spray it with non-stick cooking spray, then add the bean mixture.
6. Bake it in a preheated 350 degree oven for 25 minutes. Then pull it out and stir it and make sure the middle is hot.
7. Sprinkle the rest of the fried onions on the top. Put it back in the oven and cook it for another 5 minutes until the onions are brown and crispy

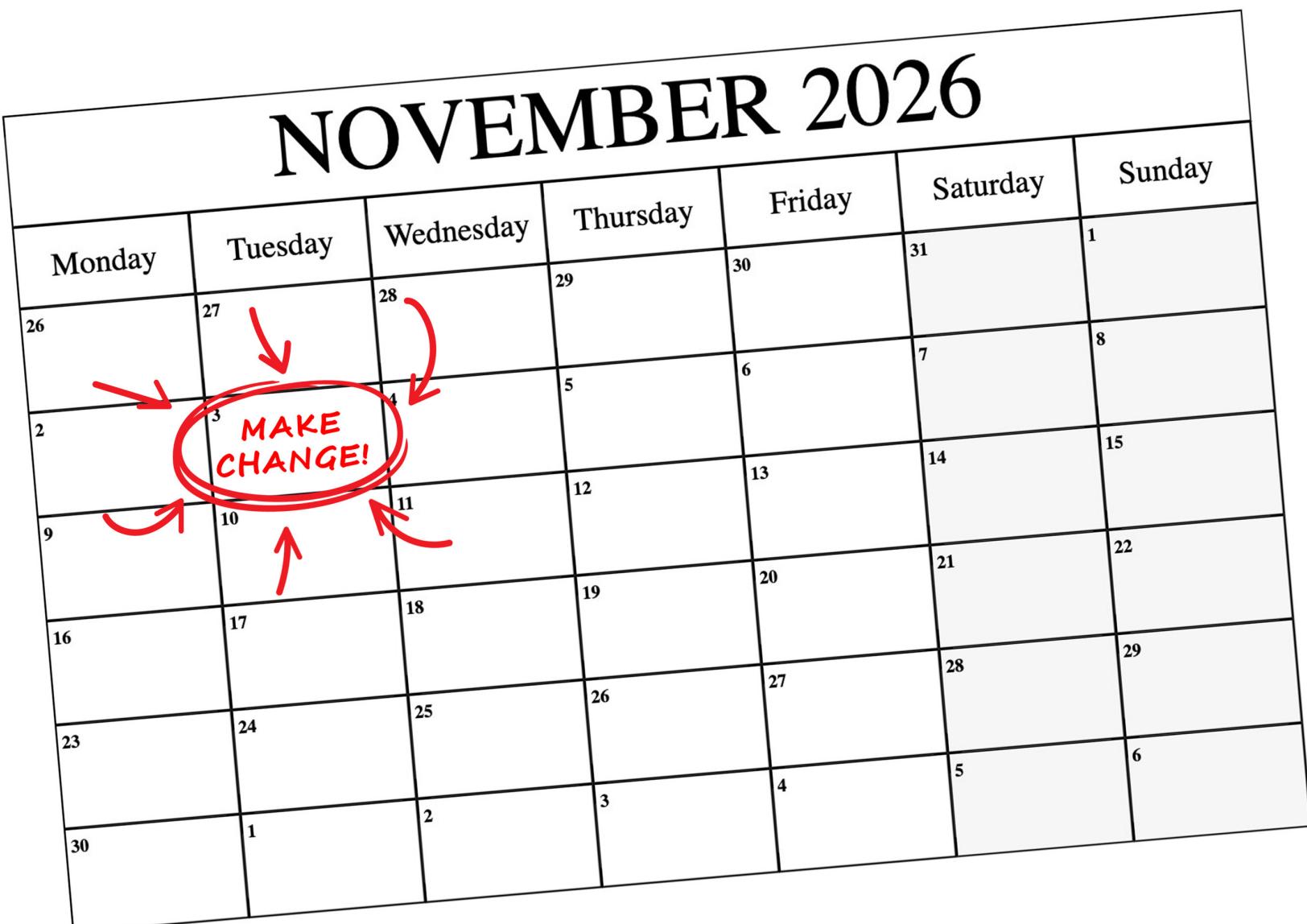


Illustration by Alison Teeter

WE CAN'T LET FEAR STOP US FROM PURSUING CHANGE

Following Donald Trump's election Nov. 5, some students are concerned about what this outcome means for the future. Throughout his campaign, Trump promised to place undocumented immigrants in detention camps and cut existing policies combating climate change. He has continuously spewed vitriol toward minorities and women, leading to justifiable anxiety among millions of Americans.

Trump refuses to respect the democratic process. After losing the 2020 presidential election to Joe Biden, Trump claimed that the results were fraudulent and incited his supporters to storm the Capitol building. Leading up to the 2024 election, Trump and his team made it clear that they would not concede defeat, again on the basis of supposed fraud. Trump also stated outright that he plans to be a dictator at the start of his presidency.

'Rite Idea' It's unsurprising, then, that there are fears that our democratic system will be upended, that Trump will exert an authoritative power and refuse to honor democratic checks and balances. While these concerns are not unfounded, this outcome is not certain. It's true that Trump's proposed policies would disastrously affect marginalized groups. However, some of these policies are simply incompatible with how our government works.

One of Trump's most feared proposals aims to carry out "the largest domestic deportation operation in American history" and to create mass detention camps to forcibly detain all unauthorized migrants. While this idea is truly terrifying, it just isn't feasible. Trump has provided no explanation of how the government would acquire the necessary funds, transportation and personnel. Trump cannot transport and contain more than 14 million people countrywide simply because he wishes to do so. While Trump's plan during his first term to build a wall across the entire southern border – at Mexico's expense – shocked and terrified half the country, it remained a campaign tactic and a subject to boast about rather than an actual accomplishment.

Government teacher Kimberly Owens explained that a president's actions are constrained by the federal budget. An estimated seventy-five percent of the federal budget is occupied by mandatory spending, which is required by existing laws. At least half of the remaining roughly 25 percent is allocated to military spending,

meaning that 12.5 percent of the budget or less is available for all other government spending, including programs that are already in place. When the federal budget is so limited, the government must be selective when determining which policies to enact, and these decisions are up to the discretion of Congress, not just the president. Some of Trump's proposals are not even federal government matters; cutting education funding, which is determined by states, is one such example.

Owens also noted that while Trump won't be running for re-election, Congress will. With midterm elections in two years, Congress has other priorities and is less likely to support Trump's proposals now that he is no longer angling for another term. "Not only does he not have the money to push these programs, but those who have the money – though they may be aligned with his principles – would they really be aligned when it comes down to a limited budget?" Owens said.

Catastrophizing and worrying about the doomsday predictions that flood the media will not do anything to mitigate the effects of Trump's presidency. We must focus on the reality of what Trump's victory means for the future, and consider what we can do going forward. It's easy to fall into the trap of helplessness, feeling paralyzed by an outcome we did not choose. However, there are legitimate actions that ordinary people like us can take to fight back against Trump's hateful rhetoric.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D) emphasized the importance of these actions in a Nov. 7 op-ed for Time Magazine. "Whether it's stepping up to run for office, supporting a neighbor's campaign, or getting involved in an organization taking action, we all have to continue to make investments in our democracy," Warren wrote. "The political position we're in is not permanent, and we have the power to make change if we fight for it."

Trump's policies will likely be intertwined with his racist and sexist rhetoric, and concern over this fact is justified. Trump lacks respect for the government and the people whom it intends to serve, but his power is not unlimited. In the drastic changes he proposes, he displays his ignorance of the way this country is run – and we are not powerless to fight against these changes. Midterm elections will begin Nov. 3, 2026 in Ohio, and it is imperative that those of us who will be able to vote do so. We are not voiceless, and the importance of registering to vote is now more clear than ever. Trump's victory is not the end of our democracy.

WINTER SPORTS COMING SOON TO A VENUE NEAR YOU

Changing weather and leaf color signals the move from outdoor competition to various indoor locations for winter sports teams.

The men's and women's swim and diving teams are facing the biggest change. Their long tenure at the Woodbury Elementary School pool has ended. Renovation of the building will begin, eventually, and in the meantime, Raider aquatic athletes are racking up laps in the middle school's pool.

Raider Zone editors, with help from Sports Writing reporters, offer these winter sport resets.



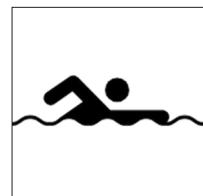
Swimmers move to SMS this year. *Cam Dozier*



Henry Downard Raymond follows through on a roll during practice last year, the inaugural season for varsity bowling. The Raiders return seven players to both squads this year. *Gus Chan*



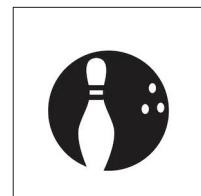
MEN'S BB



MEN'S SWIM



MEN'S WR



BOWLING



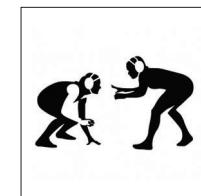
ICE HOCKEY



WOMEN'S BB



WOMEN'S SW



WOMEN'S WR

Last year
5-19
Conference
Last
Postseason
Round 1 of Districts
Returning seniors
6

"My goals for the season are to improve and play better as a unit, but most importantly have a fun and successful season with my brothers." **Quinn Coggins, senior, point guard**

"We have to be better than last year. Last season we were horrific. I've never been that bad. Normally we are ranked in the area and go pretty far. The gym has been open six days a week and I got a new young coaching staff that I'm very excited about." **Head Coach Danny Young**

Don't miss
Jan. 24 vs. Heights at home, obviously.

Last year
6-7
Conference
5th
Postseason
State qualifier
Returning seniors
3

"We have a different schedule and training program, so we need to put our best foot forward and give 110 percent." **Nate Milgram, senior, freestyle**

"Our goals for both the women's and men's teams are that we improve from the start of the season to the finish and show great sportsmanship in representing our school, team and family." **Head Coach Jakee Frazier**

Don't miss
Jan. 10 meet at Strongsville, the defending, undefeated conference champ.

Last year
32-10
Conference
5th
Postseason
Regional champ
Returning seniors
6

"Having a good season and being ready to wrestle, the Beachwood tournament and home matches are what I'm looking forward to." **Miko Troupe, junior**

"My comment for this season is buckle up because this is going to be a fun ride. We are prepared to put the conference and state on notice." **Head Coach Jakee Frazier**

Don't miss
Dec. 7 tournament at Beachwood High School to get the first look at the new Raider grapplers.

Last year
Men: 1-8
Conference
5th
Postseason
Men: 5th
Women: Last
Postseason
District qualifier
Returning athletes
Men: 7
Women: 7

"I'm really excited. I hope to learn new skills and meet new people." **Ryder Holmes, freshman**

"We are a part of the GCC Conference and play against other GCC teams, about 40 teams across the Cleveland area. We are growing and learning." **Women's Head Coach Brittany Billups**

Don't miss
Dec. 13 tournament at Rollhouse Mentor, to see both teams first look against GCC competition.

Last year
19-14-3
Conference
3rd
Postseason
District runner-up
Returning seniors
10

"Our team's goal is to be the best we possibly can be. Most of us believe if we do this we will be able to compete for the district and state championships." **Andy Benincasa, senior, defenseman**

"Our overall goal this year is to have another successful season, win our league, and make it to the state Final Four." **Head Coach Matt Bartley**

Don't miss
Dec. 6 vs. Padua Franciscan for the anticipated home opener.

Last year
4-18
Conference
6th
Postseason
Round 1 of Districts
Returning seniors
4

"I think we will be pretty good this season. We have a new coach, but everything is looking good and we are very excited." **Lizzy Favret, senior, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee recruit**

"Our goal is to stabilize the program and get the girls back to playing basketball the correct way." **Head Coach Gregory McIntosh**

Don't miss
Nov. 26 tip-off vs the Strongsville Mustangs at home as the Raiders will attempt to defeat the defending GCC champions.

Last year
12-1
Conference
1st
Post-season
State qualifier
Returning seniors
8

"Working as a team will be the most important part of this season. We need to lean on one another and help each other succeed." **Morgan Delong, senior**

"We are fortunate to have some strong returning swimmers and divers. Anna Kuhel, Sophie Grimes and Louisa Holda are returning as part of our state medley relay." **Head Coach Jakee Frazier**

Don't miss
Jan. 23 dual match against Cleveland Heights.

Last year
10-5
Conference
Not applicable
Post-season
District champ
Returning athletes
1

"My goal for this year is to make it to states; last year I just missed it." **Zoie Durham, sophomore**

"My goals are to continue Zoie off with a good start, keep her hot and get her going, and try to bring in as many newcomers as possible." **Head Coach Jakee Frazier**

Don't miss
Jan. 24 meet at Hathaway Brown, the Division II champ.

Compiled by Raider Zone Editors Eamonn Furey, Vaughn Ullom and Spencer Zbanek and Sports Writing Reporters Bailey Brown, Louise Hubbard, Jai'Den Dunnigan, Graham Gurney, Andrew Mullen and Kellen Young.